

Application No.: 10/725,602
Examiner: LEWIS, Kiandre
Art Unit: 3772

REMARKS

Favorable and prompt allowance of the pending application is respectfully requested on the basis of the following particulars.

In the amendment to the claims, the subject matter of claim 3 is added to claim 1 so as to place claim 1 in conformance with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claim 1 is also amended to expressly recite in the step of forming the compliant element that it is formed by the vacuum. Thus, with the addition of the subject matter of claim 3, claim 1 now fully conveys to the skilled artisan how the compliant element is formed.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance by including the allowable subject matter of claim 3 and complying with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Claim 4 is now amended to depend from claim 1.

Claims 15-23 are allowed.

Therefore, as a result of the amendment to the claims, and further in view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that every pending claim in the present application be allowed and the application be passed to issue.

If any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephone or facsimile communication with the applicants' attorney, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the numbers shown below.

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC
625 Slaters Lane, Fourth Floor
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1176
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

Date: November 21, 2007

Respectfully submitted,



JUSTIN J. CASSELL
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 46,205